

REMARKS

The last Office Action has been carefully considered.

It is noted that claims 21-25, 28, 31 and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) over the U.S. patent to Bloxom

Claim 27 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) over the U.S. patent to Bloxom in view of the U.S. patent to Wachtel.

Claim 32 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 over the U.S. patent to Bloxom in view of the U.S. patent to Vickery.

Claims 29-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over the patent to Bloxom in view of the patent to Pick.

The drawings and some claims are objected to.

At the same time the Examiner indicated that claims 26 and 33 are not rejected over the art.

The Examiner's indication of the allowability of claims 26 and 33 has been gratefully acknowledged.

In connection with this, the features of claim 26 have been introduced into claim 1 thus making it allowable, and claim 33 has been rewritten in independent form thus making it allowable as well.

Claims 32 and 35-40 have been cancelled, and claim 24 has been amended. New claims 41-49 which correspond to claims 22-25 and 26-31 and depend on claim 33 have been added.

It is therefore respectfully requested to allow the present application with independent claims 21 and 33 as well as with dependent claims 22-25, 27-31 and 41-49 which depend on claims 21 and 33 correspondingly and share their allowable features.

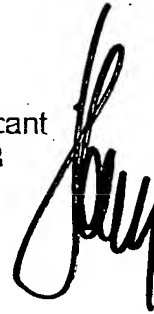
Reconsideration and allowance of the present application is most respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner require or consider it advisable that the specification, claims and/or drawings be further amended or corrected in formal respects in order to place this case in condition for final allowance, then it is

respectfully requested that such amendments or corrections be carried out by Examiner's Amendment, and the case be passed to issue. Alternatively, should the Examiner feel that a personal discussion might be helpful in advancing this case to allowance, he is invited to telephone the undersigned (at 631-243-3818).

Respectfully submitted,

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Agent for Applicant
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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Ilya Zborovsky', written over the typed name.